

The Romulus News

FEBRUARY 23, 2001 – MARCH 8, 2001

"the little paper"

VOLUME 14 NUMBER 15

Timely Tidbits ...

Redistricting Meeting

Romulus Community Schools invites the public to attend one of two special meetings regarding the elementary redistricting process that's currently underway for residents who live north of the I-94 freeway. The meetings will be held on Thursday, March 1, at Wick School (2 p.m.) and Cory School (7 p.m.). Maps will be available.

For more information, call Dick Kruse at 941-1600, ext. 231.

Dance Benefits Club

A St. Patrick's Day Dance – to be held at 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 17, at the Knights of Columbus Hall (35100 Van Born, east of Wayne) – will benefit the Romulus chapter of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan. Tickets are \$25 per person (adults only). Call 734-941-5839.

Craft Show at RHS

Romulus High School's Class of 2002 invites the public to attend its annual craft show, which will be held in the school cafeteria from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 10. Besides an enormous variety of craft items for sale, attractions will include a chance for youngsters to visit with the Easter Bunny, as well as "make & take" craft projects for kids, bake-sale "goodies," and concession food.

Students are hoping for plenty of community support at the event, which is a fund-raiser for senior class projects.

Table space (\$25) is still available. Call Class Advisor Rosalie Berlihn (734-941-2170, ext. 162).

K'garten Roundup

Romulus Community Schools invites the parents of next fall's kindergartners (children who will be five years of age by November 30, 2001) to attend its annual Kindergarten Roundup registration, to be held at each of the district's five elementaries on Wednesday, February 28, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Children are welcome. Refreshments will be served.

For more info, see page 8. □

Romulus School District Is First In State To Earn Five-year NCA Transitional Endorsement

Joel R. Carr, Superintendent of Romulus Community Schools, has announced that all seven of the district's schools – Romulus High School, Romulus Middle School, and Barth, Cory, Halecreek, Merriman, and Wick elementary schools – have earned the coveted "Transitional Endorsement" accreditation rating from the North Central Association (NCA).

"Romulus will become the first Michigan school district to receive the NCA's five-year Transitional Endorsement," said Carr. "Both Mike Bugenski, NCA head evaluator, and Deb Clancy, NCA representative, were very complimentary about the educational leadership demonstrated by our district."

"In fact, Bugenski concluded the evaluation team's final debriefing session by congratulating our administrators and teachers for their momentous achievement," Carr added.

"The Romulus program provides a unified, systematic approach to student achievement for all," said Clancy, who said she was particularly impressed with the student-parent-teacher "exit interviews" at each level, as well as the availability of intervention programs such as after-school tutoring and summer-school opportunities.

District Curriculum Director Tom Dolan was very pleased with the NCA report.



North Central Association staff members and Romulus Community Schools administrators – (from left) Mike Bugenski (head evaluator for NCA), Deb Clancy (NCA organizational representative), Joel R. Carr (Superintendent of Romulus Community Schools), Debbie Juriga (Wick Elementary Principal and NCA coordinator for the district), Gail Coleman (NCA coordinator for the district), and Tom Dolan (Curriculum Director for the district) – celebrated the district's five-year NCA Transitional Endorsement.

"Our staff has worked very hard to develop and implement the Transitional Endorsement Program," said Dolan. "The final NCA endorsement is a tribute to the dedication, expertise, and professionalism of our staff."

Especially praised were the efforts of Debbie Juriga and Gail Coleman for their outstanding presentation efforts.

The Romulus team's report will be presented to the NCA on Wednesday, February 28, and to the Commission on Schools on Wednesday, April 1, for final consideration.

In all, said Clancy, approximately 50 Michigan schools are undertaking the Transitional Endorsement program at this time. □

RMS Says "Be Mine" To Kids At Mott Hospital

Students at Romulus Middle School recently made the most of their language-arts skills to create cheerful Valentine's Day messages for children who are patients at the world-famous Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

"Our students put their language-arts, penmanship, and drawing skills to good use in preparing these messages of love and encouragement for the hospital patients," explained Christine Hobson, a language-arts teacher at the Middle School.

Laura Wooten, who also teaches language arts, added, "This service-learning project made everyone feel especially good about Valentine's Day, and also provided some joy to those who are patients at the Hospital."



Romulus Middle School students – including Arlennea Savage (front) and (from left) Jeremiah Warren, Ashley Moss, Jessica Workman, Dennis Suiter, Brian Rodger, Lola Wynn, and Ron Kreutzer – show off the Valentine's Day greetings they made for the children at Mott Hospital.

Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: All letters to the editor must contain the writer's signature and a telephone number where he/she can be reached in order to verify the letter's authenticity. Names will be withheld by request if, in our opinion, the letter's content merits anonymity.

The Romulus News reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and, if necessary, brevity.

RHS Student Replies To Ex-Councilman's Letter

To the Editor:

I am appalled by Mr. Jimmie C. Raspberry's statements about Councilwoman Debbie Romak [TRN, February 9, 2001]. Mrs. Romak has tried her hardest to prevent the well from coming to Romulus and all that Mr. Raspberry has to say is that, and I quote, "Romak should immediately resign." If he wants to be involved with this subject, maybe he should run for mayor in the November elections.

I would also like to question another of his quotes: "I believe it's finally time to ask what a lot of people have been whispering about for a long time: Is Romak being paid to protest against EDS?" Are you getting paid to protest Mrs. Romak? The people who think this must not know Mrs. Romak very well, and therefore they shouldn't take such nasty rumors and try to turn them into the truth.

Another out-of-line quote from you, Mr. Raspberry: "Two weeks ago, Romak called for 'civil disobedience' at a public hearing about the well. Can you imagine—a public official who has sworn to uphold the law is now calling for the public to the law is now calling for the public to break the law?" So, you mean to say that you have never broken a law while being a public official? I would expect anyone to break a law when they're so passionate about something such as this. Also, you mean to say that you wouldn't do the same, if you were still an official, to help the community that you say is your home?

Erratum

In the Romulus Middle School "honor roll" list that was published in our February 9, 2001 issue, the name of seventh-grader Ashlee Wells should have had an asterisk next to it, indicating that she was an all-A student during the second card-marking period.

Congratulations to Ashlee on her exceptional achievement. □

One more thing: Where were you in 1990 when the well got approved? You asked this question about Mrs. Romak, so I am going to ask the same about you. If I recall correctly, you were on the City Council then. Why didn't you try to stop it when EDS was trying to bring the well in?

A concerned citizen,
Teddy A. Hall, Jr.

Wadsworth Defends Romak, McAnally

To the Editor:

The following is in response to former Councilman Jimmie C. Raspberry's comments in reference to Councilwoman Debbie Romak, former Mayor Beverly McAnally, and the proposed hazardous commercial injection well [TRN, February 9, 2001].

I, William Wadsworth, am the Chairman Pro Tem of the Romulus City Council, and have continuously served on the City Council for the last 18 years. It saddens me that Mr. Raspberry could still defend a hazardous injection well over the residents and taxpayers who go to sleep every night in our city.

Mr. Raspberry claims he defends the citizens of Romulus. First, his track record shows just the opposite is true. In the 1960s, Mr. Raspberry supported a resolution to give Wayne County a 50% reduction in water and sewer rates so that they could expand Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport, while raising the water and sewer rates to the citizens of Romulus! Today, lifelong residents view airport expansion as a negative impact on our city. Mr. Raspberry has shown he supports "big business" first and the citizens of Romulus second.

Now, let's turn our attention to Council Resolution 90-589, approved by the City Council at its meeting of December 10, 1990. Environmental Disposal Systems, Inc. (EDS), wanted to construct a hazardous deep injection well in Romulus. This councilman encouraged Mr. Raspberry to vote "no" on the proposed well. Councilman Randolph Gear, Councilman Russell Lambert, and I voted against it. Mr. Raspberry voted "yes" to acknowledge the well. Again, Mr. Raspberry voted to put "big business" first and Romulus residents second.

Mr. Raspberry states that the well is safe because the government told us so. In the past, the government has told us many times what has been safe. In the 1880s, the government and tobacco companies told us it was safe to smoke. In later years, the government told us asbestos was safe. The government said DDT was safe to use on fields and

to spray on children to control mosquitos. Later studies indicated how dangerous this procedure was. DDT is now banned and considered a toxic substance! The government told us Agent Orange was safe to spray on our troops in Vietnam. This is only a tiny example of all the things that the government has told us were safe and later reversed its opinion. The list is endless. We all know history has proven that those very government approvals are now the direct causes of cancer and other life-threatening illnesses.

Now, Mr. Raspberry wants us to believe that injecting hazardous waste into the ground is safe because the government tells us so. What happens if, in five years, the government reverses its opinion and tells us it is not safe? How do we retrieve this hazardous waste once it is injected into the ground? The citizens of Romulus should ask Mr. Raspberry if his vote to accept the well in Romulus continues this cycle.

Mr. Raspberry continues to blame former Mayor McAnally for bringing the well into Romulus. Stop this smoke screen. The well falls directly on your

shoulders, Mr. Raspberry. You voted "yes." Former Mayor McAnally did not have a vote like you did.

In regards to your comments on Councilwoman Romak, I applaud her fight against this hazardous well. Her dedication is endless and she has demonstrated time and time again that she cares about the citizens of Romulus first. On December 10, 1990, had Councilwoman Romak been on the City Council, and not you, Mr. Raspberry, Resolution 90-589 acknowledging this hazardous well would have been defeated by a 4-to-3 vote.

Without the same dedication and support from Romulus Environmentalists Care About People (RECAP), this proposed well would probably be pumping millions of gallons of hazardous waste into the earth today.

In closing, I am stating that, in the event that this hazardous injection well is constructed, only history will tell us if the well is as safe as EDS claims. History will also tell us that this councilman voted "no" on December 10, 1990, and never was in favor of this project.

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The Romulus News

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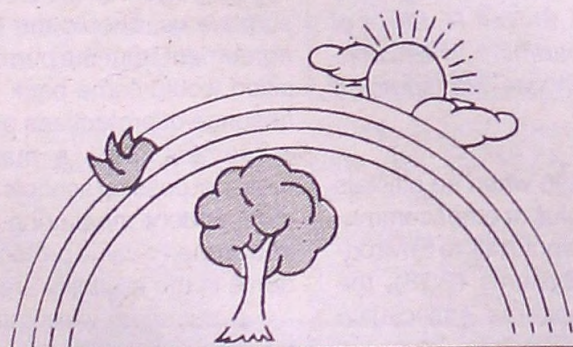
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China: A Teacher's Reflections



Among the sights that Romulus Middle School foreign-language teacher Antoinette Soave (left) has seen during her visit to China is Beijing's famous Tiananmen Square.

By Antoinette Soave, foreign-language teacher, Romulus Middle School

As an American living in Jilin, China, I consider myself privileged to be here in this exciting country during these auspicious times. Change is occurring so rapidly here that each day brings a new set of adventures. Distinguished for its longest continuing civilization and heavy population, China also boasts the fastest growing economy in the world. In 10 to 20 years, it is expected to rival that of the United States.

Due to my limited language abilities, little conversation occurs in the car between the Chinese driver and myself as he drives me across town to one of the three schools where I teach. Enjoying a false sense of security in the back seat of the car (Jilin reports at least seven automobile fatalities daily), I sit back and take in the sights. I look out at the teeming mass of humanity, from the youngest child perched precariously on the back seat of a bicycle, clutching its mother's back, to the old man hobbling along on a cane. The constant flow of bicycles, taxis, buses, cars, carts, trucks, donkeys, and pedestrians — all in the same place — confuses my Midwestern conditioning and makes me dizzy. Looking off to the side of the road, I glance upon people selling fruits, vegetables, meat, and live fish in tubs; people cooking on open fires and eating; and still others sweeping the street, getting their hair cut, taking a nap on a parked motorbike, getting their bicycle repaired, or digging a trench for pipes. I see life in its raw essence, all in the open air. I see that the Chinese people are extremely hard-working and diligent — a proud people struggling to make progress in a country where basic survival has not been assured or assumed.

I am repeatedly awestruck with each new realization that I am in China.

Why am I here? To put it simply, it is to teach English and study Chinese. At times, the Chinese language appears unfathomable, with its four tones and thousands of characters, and learning Chinese seems an insurmountable task. Yet the real learning goes beyond words, as I make discoveries through the interactions and laughter shared among the Korean, Russian, and Japanese students in our Chinese language class.

When I become a student along with my foreign classmates, a whole new realm of experiences opens up. Despite the fact that we come from different countries, or that our countries may have been enemies, there is little difference among us: we all make the same language errors and commiserate over getting used to the food or trying to line-dry our clothes in an unheated apartment. In this time and space, we are all bound by being students in a foreign country. A certain electricity is generated in the air when we spot another Western-looking face amidst a city of a million Asian faces. It doesn't matter that it turns out you're American and he's Russian; instant friendships are formed. One would assume you were meeting up with a long-lost relative.

When not studying Chinese, I am teaching English. My schedule consists of formal classes to college, high-school, and primary students in addition to informal classes held in my apartment. My classes are growing at a breakneck speed that compares with the country's development (old buildings are demolished in an instant and new buildings appear overnight).

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Letters to the Editor

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You, Mr. Raspberry, on the other hand, have voted "yes" on the placement of the well. It is typical that, again, you have voted for the interests of "big business" over the interest of the residents of our city. Mr. Raspberry, you called upon Councilwoman Romak to resign. The citizens of this city would have been better served if you had resigned back in 1990!

William Wadsworth
Chairman Pro Tem
Romulus City Council

Raspberry Continues To Ask Romak: "Why?"

My Friends and Neighbors:

I just read Councilwoman Debbie Romak's "letter to the editor" in *The Romulus Roman* [February 15, 2001], and felt that I had to write to you again because of my love for our community. The feelings I am expressing are based on my 37 years of public service and as a Romulus taxpayer since 1943.

I hadn't ever seen Mrs. Romak until, all of a sudden, just before our election in 1993, she popped up out of nowhere, raising heck about the well. Now, she's a city councilwoman with a couple years of experience who's trying to get re-elected in November.

I'm not in office and I'm not running for office. I have nothing to gain or lose from telling you like it is.

Mrs. Romak believes it is her constitutional right to practice civil disobedience (to break the law) and call for others to do the same. She apparently believes it is up to her which laws can be broken and which must be obeyed.

Mrs. Romak says she is going to stop Environmental Disposal Systems (EDS). She ignores the fact that the courts have said that EDS can put its well in Romulus, despite our city spending more than \$1 million on lawyers trying to stop it. It sounds to me like Mrs. Romak lost. . . . What do you think? Instead, we could have built a new fire station or a recreation center.

Mrs. Romak says the well isn't safe. She ignores the fact that the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the State of Michigan, and geologists at the University of Michigan and Western Michigan University have all said that EDS's well is safe. She has had seven years now. If she knows something we don't, she should tell us. Time's up; speak now or forever hold your peace. Who do you think has the most expertise and the most credibility — Mrs. Romak or the real experts?

Mrs. Romak continues her fight against EDS. Why does she ignore Michigan Recovery (one of EDS' competitors), located at Van Born and Hannan roads? They dump huge amounts of hazardous waste in our sewers. And what about the abandoned landfills in

Romulus that continue to leak into our drinking water? What about Hypo Chlor at Northline and I-275? If they ever have a spill, we would have to evacuate half of Romulus.

Why doesn't Mrs. Romak do something about these really dangerous issues instead of concentrating on EDS? I keep asking myself, *Why?* And if the well is really such a serious problem, why are so many developers building projects in Romulus? Apparently, they aren't as worried as Mrs. Romak. This is only common sense.

Could it be she's taking money under the table from EDS' competitors? If so, she's spending our tax dollars to pay lawyers to fight EDS while making a profit doing it. That's not right, and may be a criminal offense.

Now, I want you to know this isn't personal. I'm sure she's a good mother and a good wife, and if she isn't taking money under the table to fight EDS, then she probably means to be a good citizen, too. She's just got her priorities all mixed up. It happens sometimes with our younger people.

I'm asking Mrs. Romak to work with me and other, more experienced citizens to make our community a better place to live and work, to attract new industry, to keep our taxes low, and to address the really serious issues we are confronted with.

If she can't, or won't, then Romulus can't afford another four years of her irresponsible actions. Either she straightens up and flies right, and concentrates on our city's really important issues, or else she's got to go!

Your Friend and Neighbor,
Jimmie C. Raspberry

Romak Letter To Engler Called "Outrageous"

Dear Governor Engler:

I am writing because of the outrageous letter sent to you recently by Councilwoman Debbie Romak of Romulus [TRN, February 9, 2001].

First, Mrs. Romak does not speak for the majority of Romulus's citizens. I am attaching a recent letter to the citizens of Romulus from former senior Romulus City Councilman Jimmie C. Raspberry. Mr. Raspberry is very familiar with the deepwell issue. He was a member of the City Council when former Mayor Beverly McAnally welcomed Environmental Disposal Systems (EDS) into Romulus and then double-crossed them after they drilled their first well. Mr. Raspberry is also critical of Mrs. Romak because of her very unprofessional behavior, calls for civil disobedience, and questionable motives.

Second, in 1994, Mrs. McAnally and Mrs. Romak tried to pass a property-tax increase to raise money to pay the lawyers fighting EDS. Both they and the tax lost by a 3-to-1 margin. Obvi-

ously, the people aren't worried enough about the well to pay to fight it.

Third, during the past seven years, Mrs. Romak has had plenty of opportunities to provide credible scientific or other evidence which shows EDS's project is not safe. Unfortunately for Mrs. Romak, all of the "evidence" provided by her has been nothing more than rhetoric designed to further her political career.

Fourth, I applaud the efforts of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Only after the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approved EDS's project did the DEQ begin its exhausting five-year review.

Sure, the Site Review Board voted 5-3 against the project. But none of the scientists on the Board found anything wrong with the project, and the board was, as everybody in Romulus knows, manipulated by a few local politicians for their own political purposes. It's no wonder that the DEQ ignored the Board's vote because a manipulated vote cannot, and should not, be considered valid.

Fifth, in closing, I want to say that Mrs. Romak is the type of individual who believes that local government can do *anything* it pleases. It can encourage a business to move into Romulus, issue permits for the intended activities, stand by and watch as large amounts of capital are invested — and then, for purely selfish political reasons, change its mind and tell the business to leave town.

We only hope we can replace her in the next election.

Thank you for accepting this letter, along with an apology on behalf of the Romulus community for the outrageous behavior exhibited by Mrs. Romak and her small band of radicals.

Sincerely yours,
Dolores A. Witzgall

EDS Well Permit Should Include ECA Agreement

Editor's note: The following letter was written to Mr. Steven R. Sliver of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's Waste Management Division.

Dear Mr. Sliver:

At a time in 1996 when no officials of the City of Romulus or other community organizations would talk to Environmental Disposal Systems (EDS), the Environmental Concerns Association (ECA) was formed. The sole purpose of the ECA was to negotiate an agreement with EDS that, in the event a permit was issued to operate its Citrin Drive deep injection well and treatment facility, restrictions and conditions would be imposed in addition to those that the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) could or would properly attach as conditions of the permit.

At the time, what can only be characterized as a "propaganda blitz" was

underway, spearheaded by Romulus Environmentalists Care About People (RECAP), to demonize EDS. When the existence of the ECA/EDS agreement became public knowledge (with the placement of EDS' application at the Romulus Public Library), RECAP and its allies turned their propaganda campaign against the ECA.

False charges were made that the ECA claimed to represent the cities of Romulus and Taylor. RECAP engineered the passage of resolutions by the Romulus and Taylor city councils, denouncing the ECA and the agreement.

Up to the issuance of the draft permit, RECAP and its allies alternated between ignoring the ECA and making slighting remarks about us in public. When the draft permit included the community agreement as a condition of the permit, an all-out offensive was launched to discredit the ECA.

Rumors have been circulated that the purpose of the ECA was to facilitate the issuance of a permit to EDS. Rather, the agreement is a good-faith effort to provide additional protection (and benefits) to residents in the proximity of the injection well in the event a permit is issued. Indeed, a clause in the agreement acknowledges the right of residents in the eligibility area to oppose issuance of the permit.

It is the position of the ECA (and EDS) that all of the provisions in the agreement are legally enforceable under contract law. The benefit to residents in the area by DEQ referencing the community agreement as a condition of the permit is to add regulatory enforcement to those provisions in the agreement that duplicate DEQ restrictions as well as other provisions DEQ could have (and might well have) incorporated in its restrictions absent the ECA/EDS agreement.

Given the disingenuous nature of some of the arguments used in an attempt to discredit the ECA, it would not surprise us, should the DEQ drop the agreement from the permit, if the opposition would come back and decry the absence of protections provided by the agreement (e.g., a mandatory truck route not passing schools and churches, independent monitoring of the facility, and property-value protection for all residents in the eligibility area).

In summary, we commend the DEQ for providing additional safeguards for residents in Romulus and Taylor by including the agreement in the conditions of the draft permit. We strongly recommend that it also be included in the final permit, if and when it is issued.

Sincerely,
Jim Rarey
Secretary
Environmental Concerns
Association

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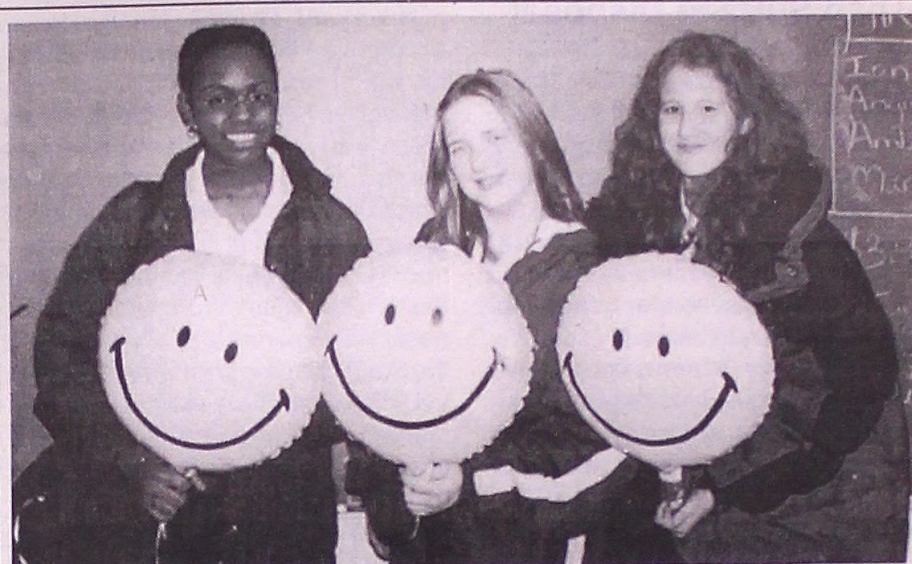
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Three from St. Aloysius Take Top Honors in Essay Contest



(From left) Darlie Atkinson, Ashley Pawlowski, and Johanna Sovinski placed first, third, and second, respectively, in the essay contest.

Three students from St. Aloysius Catholic School in Romulus have been named local winners in the 32nd annual America & Me Essay Contest, sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance.

Finishing in the top three spots at their school were Darlie Atkinson (first place), Johanna Sovinski (second), and Ashley Pawlowski (third). As the first-place winner, Atkinson will have her name engraved on a plaque for permanent display in her school. All three received award certificates for their achievement.

Atkinson's winning essay now advances to the state-level competition, from which ten top essays will be selected. The statewide winners, who will be announced in March, will receive plaques, cash, and U.S. savings bonds valued from \$500 to \$1,000. In addition, the ten will be honored at a banquet in Lansing; have an opportunity to meet with some of Michigan's top governmental leaders; and be featured guests at a Lansing Lugnuts minor-league baseball game dedicated in their honor.

The winning essays, written on the theme of "My American Hero," are reprinted below.

Darlie Atkinson

Howard Miller is my American hero. He teaches at Halecreek School in Romulus. He was the best teacher I had so far. Mr. Miller taught me to speak up for myself, and to not let people push me around. After two years in his class, I finally realized that he was really trying to help me. He also told me to "be a leader, not a follower."

I was in Mr. Miller's class for fifth and sixth grade. The first year I thought that he would be just the same as all the other teachers. Once in his class, I saw that he was totally different.

Fifth grade was my first split class. I was sort of scared at first. Mr. Miller helped me to loosen up and get used to

the older kids. He convinced me that was a good thing since I would always be around older people.

I admire Mr. Miller because he didn't yell as much as the other teachers. That was a plus! He was one of my favorite teachers. He was always patient and talked in a calm voice. He seemed to really enjoy teaching. He did a lot of projects with us and we had lots of fun.

In the sixth grade, Mr. Miller arranged for just our class to have laptops brought to our class. That was great! The sixth grade was the best, but we had a lot more kids. There were forty-four to be exact. Sometimes we weren't the best class. A few substitute teachers probably would agree.

Mr. Miller took his time and that's why he's my American hero. Mr. Miller was a very patient man. That is why I admire him. One day I would like to be as patient as him.

Looking back on my experience in Mr. Miller's class, I now realize that I consider him to be a hero. I admire him and look up to him for his patience. Someday, I hope to be more patient with other people as he is.

Johanna Sovinski

My American Hero is someone who is very close to me. My grandfather, William J. Sovinski Sr., is someone who demonstrates what a hero is to me. A hero is someone who sets an example for others to follow, has courage, and does well for others. My grandfather has these qualities and many more.

My grandpa was born on January 11, 1928, the third of six children, born to a coal miner and his wife, in a small town in Pennsylvania. He was a large baby and my Great Aunt tells the story of him being dropped into a rain barrel right after birth. He was a blue baby when he came out and the midwife who attended his birth did this in an attempt

continued on page 9

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Letters to the Editor

continued from page 4

Well Injection Safer Than Surface Disposal

Dear Editor:

I am writing to you as a professor of Geology and the Director of the Michigan Basin Core Research Laboratory, which I established in 1982. I have been a resident of Michigan for over 22 years.

My professional geoscience activities for the last 15 years have centered on studying the subsurface layers of rock in the Michigan basin. My students and I have done numerous cooperative research and consulting projects dealing with Michigan geology. We have worked in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and U.S. Department of Energy.

We have accumulated a very extensive data set from about 45,000 wells drilled in the State of Michigan. This data includes logs describing the physical properties of the subsurface strata; analyses measuring the composition, porosity, and permeability of most formations; actual well-drilling samples from hundreds of wells; and over 25,000 feet of cores of various rock layers as shallow as a few hundred feet to depths in excess of 17,000 feet below the surface.

Opposition to the Environmental Disposal Systems (EDS) facility appears

to be centered around a small group of residents in Romulus. These citizens have adopted an all-too-familiar "not in my backyard" attitude. I fear that failure to approve EDS' applications in Romulus would result in these type of commercial wells being developed in rural areas away from population centers, but also away from the industrial sources which generate the waste. Such action would further result in large numbers of trucks bringing waste liquids from southeastern Michigan to rural areas for disposal. As responsible policy-makers for the State of Michigan, it is incumbent on public servants like the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to be well informed as to the risk and benefits of technology in our society.

One of the projects completed by the Core Lab, and which I supervised, was a contract with the USEPA to study the suitability of the "basal sandstone" (i.e., Mt. Simon Formation) as a disposal unit for liquid waste injection. Our project was part of a multi-state study in the Great Lakes region. This study concluded that this sandstone was well-suited for this type of waste disposal. It was also noted that deep injection wells are one of the safest techniques for the disposal of these types of waste. The report of this study, published in 1989, is titled "Hydrogeologic and Hydrochemical Assessment of the Basal Sandstone

and Overlying Paleozoic Age Units for Wastewater Injection and Confinement in the North Central Region." In the preface of this document, the Underground Injection Practices Council states:

"The practice of deep well disposal of liquid waste has been, is currently, and will likely remain an important part of the overall solution to proper disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes. In that light, this report should serve as a valuable tool for persons concerned with the placement and use of deep well disposal systems."

The southeastern part of our state has a strong, diverse economy based on industrial manufacturing. These businesses, however, generate considerable waste as a result of their production practices. Communities who derive the economic benefit of industry should also bear the responsibility of the waste products. It is unacceptable to export the pollution we create in this state.

The disposal of waste in our modern society is a crucial issue that should not be decided by emotionalism. The preponderance of evidence is simply that underground injection of liquid waste is far safer than any type of surface storage or internment in landfills.

Numerous subsurface layers have historically been used in Michigan for the disposal of liquid waste. Our knowledge of these layers is good and the

technology for construction and operation of disposal wells has never been better. Current State and Federal regulations require a thorough review of the proposed well site and allow for public comment through the hearing process. Once a well is constructed, strict monitoring requirements have assured safe operations and protection of our valuable drinking water.

In conclusion, I strongly urge the DEQ's approval of the EDS application. We should not limit the options that are available for waste disposal. Different systems may be useful under different conditions. Michigan subsurface formations that have been used for underground injection often are ideal reservoirs for storage of liquid wastes. Disposal of liquids through deep well injection is not only safe, but extremely efficient, and should result in reduction of disposal cost, thereby improving the economics of operation for Michigan industry. In conjunction with the proximity to the large industrial region that produces great quantities of liquid waste, deep disposal injection wells in southeastern Michigan are geologically and economically ideally sited.

Sincerely,

William B. Harrison III
Professor and Director
Michigan Basin Core Research
Laboratory □

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PAY-LESS TRANSMISSIONS

Community Calendar

- **Home-buyers' Class** – Wells Fargo, in collaboration with the Inkster Community Investment Partnership (a nonprofit, community-based development organization that benefits low- and moderate-income households, families, and persons; combats community deterioration; promotes and encourages community reinvestment; and creates and retains jobs within the City of Inkster), is sponsoring a home-buyers' class for first-time home-buyers and buyers of a second home. Learn about credit repair, no-money-down plans, MSHDA and Nehemiah programs, and FHA and VA loans. The class will be held on Saturday, February 24, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at 3767 Inkster Road. For more information, call W. Williams at 313-271-3141.
- **"Romulus Dog Days"** – The Romulus Animal Shelter is hosting its annual "Dog Days" program at the old DPW building (corner of Shook and Bibbins, next to the Recreation Center) on Saturday, February 24, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost for a one-year rabies vaccination for dogs, cats, and ferrets will be \$5; three-year rabies inoculation – \$10; DHLPP – \$15; DHLPP w/ corona – \$25; and microchip ID implant – \$30. Also available will be bordatella and lyme inoculations; and dog licenses (\$7 for one year; \$12 for two; or \$15 for three). Additional discounts will be offered to seniors citizens and owners of sterilized pets. For more information, call 734-942-7591.
- **Attention, Boaters!** – The Wyandotte Power Squadron cordially invites you to learn to skipper a boat or improve your boating skills by attending its Public Boating Class, which begins Monday, February 26, at 7 p.m. in the Copeland Center (2306 4th Street, corner of Mulberry, Wyandotte). Instruction is free; manual is \$34. Registration will be held at the Center at 6:45 p.m. on February 26 and March 5. Call 313-382-6774 or 734-941-7753.
- **Bingo!** – Beginning February 27, the Romulus Progressive Club (11580 Ozga Road) will host Tuesday Night Bingo! The weekly games will start at 6:30 p.m.; finish by 10 p.m. Everyone is welcome.
- **The Mayor's Chair** – The next edition of the monthly *Mayor's Chair* program will air on cable channel 12 beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 8. Special guest Linda Norman, Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Romulus, will be on hand to discuss the Senior Center's Crime Watch and Home Chore Service programs, "File of Life" emergency information kits, and free tax-preparation services, plus numerous other programs currently being offered. Anyone who would like to be present when the program is taped must be seated in the Council Chambers at Romulus City Hall (11111 S. Wayne Rd., at Goddard) by 6:15 p.m. Beginning at 6 p.m., home viewers can ask questions of the Mayor and his guests by calling 734-942-7571.
- **Spaghetti Dinner Benefits Spicer** – A Spaghetti Dinner fund-raiser for Shannon Spicer – a local fourth-grader who is currently being treated for leukemia – will be held at the local VFW Hall (39270 Huron River Drive, Romulus) on Saturday, March 10, from 12 to 7 p.m. Advance tickets (\$6 for adults; \$4 for children) are available at Romulus schools and many area businesses. For more information, contact Jackie Beline (734-941-3671) or Bill Baum (734-941-0536).
- **Alumni Association Hosts Chili Cook-off** – The Romulus High School Alumni Association's annual Chili Cook-off – open to the public – will be held at the High School on Friday, March 16, in Room 507. All participants need to register their entries no later than 6:30 p.m. For more information, call Don Morris at 734-941-1600, ext. 228.
- **In-Balance Center Hosts Annual Herb Conference** – The In-Balance Center's annual Herb Conference will be held at the Romulus Marriott (30559 Flynn Drive) on Saturday, April 28, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Guest speaker will be Dr. Jack Ritchason, who will discuss "Nature's Sunshine Products – Herbs and Your Health." Tickets are \$40 (nonrefundable). Deadline for registration is April 18. For information, call 734-941-8778.
- **RHS Class of 1981 To Host 20-year Reunion** – Romulus High School's Class of 1981 is in the process of planning its 20-year reunion. Any alumni interested in attending the event or becoming part of the planning committee are asked to contact Shona Silvey-Baum at 313-999-0016 or Lisa Riopelle at 313-492-7031.

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to us at 941-4874; or call 941-1907 or 941-3113

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China: A Teacher's Reflections

continued from page 3

China's serious campaign to produce English-speakers is evident in the growing number of English clubs and classes offered from 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week. All children start English studies in the fourth grade, with the better schools starting in kindergarten or preschool classes. Ten-year-old youngsters walk to English class on a Friday evening after a long day at school. Parents are keenly proud when their child utters a phrase in English. Any hope of success or job promotions depends on knowing English. Everyone wants to practice English and willingly embraces all kinds of sacrifices to make it possible.

China's one-child policy has put enormous pressure on children to excel. China has traditionally placed high value on education, but now, faced with an only child in a country of 1.3 billion, all parents feel the fierce competition. Everything parents do is geared to the future of their most cherished possession. I enjoy watching the deep affection and tenderness expressed between parent and child, regardless of age.

Next to the parent-child relationship, I am deeply impressed by the relationship of students and teachers in China. There is a reverence of student for teacher that equals, if not exceeds, that which exists between child and

parent. Witnessing the mutual love between Chinese teachers and students makes me envious until I realize that I, too, participate in it.

Recently, I completed a lesson with a group of fourth-graders, and was about to begin the next lesson when a student gently said, "Laoshe (Chinese for teacher), you should take a rest now," and brought me a chair, placing his own little cushion on the seat. I had no choice but to comply with my little student's instructions, and so I sat. I was momentarily dumbfounded as I saw before me a sea of still bodies, sitting perfectly erect, hands folded, expectant faces and eager eyes perfectly contented to watch me sit.

Yes, this experience is about so much more than teaching English and studying Chinese. It is about building bridges and breaking barriers.

I am happy to be a part of it. □

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Kindergarten Roundup

**Wednesday, February 28, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
at Your Area Elementary School**

If your child was 4 years of age by November 30, 2000, he/she will be eligible for kindergarten in the fall of 2001. The Romulus School District seeks your input concerning our kindergarten program for the 2001 – 2002 school year. Please review the options below, fill in the parent advisory form, and turn it in during the Kindergarten Roundup at your area elementary. Your help will enable the district to effectively implement a program that best meets the needs of our parents.

If you have any questions, call your local elementary school (Barth: 734-941-2821; Cory: 734-721-4757; Halecreek: 734-941-0536; Merriman: 734-941-6900; Wick: 734-326-4610) or Richard Kruse at 734-941-1600, ext. 231.

PARENT ADVISORY FORM FOR 2001 KINDERGARTEN

I (parent or legal guardian) _____

Address _____ Phone _____

am enrolling my child _____

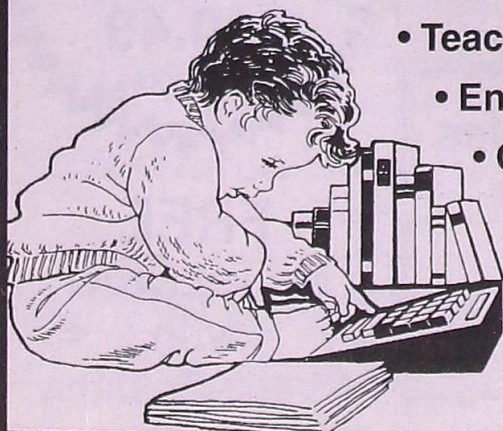
in the Romulus school district's kindergarten program for the 2001 – 2002 school year. I understand that my child must be 5 years of age by November 30, 2001, in order to be eligible. Please consider my choices as follows:

- _____ A. All-day every-day kindergarten
- _____ B. Alternate-day kindergarten
- _____ C. Alternate-day kindergarten with available childcare on nonschool days
- _____ D. Latchkey services with any of the above schedules

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Three Students from St. Aloysius School Take Top Honors in Essay Contest

continued from page 5

to save him. The majority of Grandpa's early life was spent in West Virginia, where his parents, both immigrants, helped shape his life.

By all accounts, my grandfather was a dashing young man. He moved to Michigan shortly after turning twenty-two. He is the first in his family to have finished high school, which he is quite proud of. Grandpa came to Michigan,

on his way to Chicago, looking for work. He found a job and liked it here so he stayed. He eventually married my grandmother, Jean, and they started a family together that eventually gave them four children in all.

My grandfather has overcome many different obstacles in his life. His second son, Charles, was diagnosed with cancer and died at the early age of seventeen, the day before my grand-

father's birthday. This was a very difficult time for my grandparents, especially for my grandfather, who remained optimistic that Uncle Chuck would recover. He never wavered in his endeavor to find the best treatment for Uncle Chuck or just being there for him.

Life dealt Grandpa another blow when at the age of fifty-six he suffered a massive stroke that rendered him unable to speak, use his right side, or walk without assistance. The doctors were not certain that my grandfather would survive the stroke, let alone lead a productive life. He was forced to take an early retirement from his job as a supervisor at a spring company and start the long, hard task of trying to learn to walk, talk, and care for himself.

Grandpa spent a few months in rehab and they started him walking with a walker. Through this entire time, Grandpa refused to give up. He relearned walking, activities of daily living, and clearly speaking. Occasionally, when he is tired, he will slip up and use the wrong names and has to use a walker to get around, but this has not stopped him from enjoying life and his grandchildren.

Grandpa always is interested in what we are doing and tries to attend as much of our activities as he can. He reminds us to do our best in school and to make the best of our opportunities.

Ashley Pawlowski

A Hero is someone you admire and trust and you just look up to that person.

One person I have always admired and trusted is my grandmother, Violet Pawlowski.

My grandmother was born in Canada in 1920. She moved to America when she was six years old. She survived through the Great Depressions. Her family, at times, didn't have enough to eat. She told me that they would eat dandelion weeds. She was always involved in the Catholic Church.

She was married to her first husband, Jack, and had a daughter, Janet. Her husband died of cancer not too long after that. She remarried again to my grandfather, Henry Pawlowski. They had a daughter, my mother, Denise.

My grandmother was always involved in the local parish. She always volunteered and takes care of her family. She was a major part of the parish, being co-chairperson of the festival dinners.

She has always taken an interest in her family. Whenever someone needed something no matter what it was she was always there for him or her. She always encouraged all of us and would pay for our education. My grandfather died ten years ago. Four years after that she started developing a form of dementia.

My grandmother has good days and bad days. Some days you can still see that person there and some days you can't. She may not be as strong and conscious as she once was, but she will always be my American hero. □

ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

REGULAR MEETING, JANUARY 22, 2001

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, January 22, 2001, was called to order by President Michael D. Woods at 6:30 p.m.

Roll call showed all Board members present. All administrators were present.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Woods.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

1/01/12 Moved by Berlinn supported by Lambert to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

1/01/13 Moved by Berlinn supported by Lenossi to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held January 8, 2001, as amended. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

1/01/14 Moved by Berlinn supported by Lenossi to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education held January 16, 2001. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Personnel Actions

Mr. Edward Clark, Director of Human Resources, offered the following personnel actions for Board approval.

EMPLOYMENT: Dallas Mitchell, Paraprofessional, Barth Elementary, Effective January 16, 2001.

1/01/15 Moved by Berlinn supported by Lambert to accept the employment of personnel as submitted. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Bills for Payment

1/01/16 Moved by Lambert supported by Lenossi to approve the Bills for Payment as presented by Mr. William A. Routhier, Director of Business and Operations. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Curriculum Presentation – Language Arts

Dan Hurst, Lynne Mossioan, Serena Kessler, Taneka Singleton, and Barbara Jaszcz appeared before the Board of Education to update the Board with regard to language arts and curriculum.

Communications and Expressions from the Public

Mr. Long appeared before the Board of Education concerning the purchase of computers.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

Superintendent, Joel R. Carr, shared the following items of interest with members of the Board of Education: (1) Newsletter – The Merriman Star; (2) Thank You – Dr. Helen Stanks – FISH, RESA; (3) Thank You – Cathy Kudra; (4) Middle Cities 2000 Annual Report; (5) Communication from Representative Raymond Basham re: Merriman Golden Apple Award; (6) Thank You – David Bydlowski – FISH, RESA; (7) Communication from Kathy Hurst – Thank You – Service Learning; (8) Communications from Tom Dolan – Thank You to Billy Garland, Ellen Bragg, Kathy Hurst re: Dr. Martin Luther King Celebration; (9) Merriman Elementary School – Spring 2001 21st Century Schedule; (10) Thank You from Marty Brown, Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village – Democracy on the Green Planning Team – Charles Kidwell; and (11) Halecreek News.

Questions and/or Concerns of Board Members

Debbie Dick spoke re: track signs being designed; Romulus High School students placing 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 8th at Plymouth Ice-carving Contest; Martin Luther King celebration – well done; and very good employee recognition ceremony.

Betty Lenossi commented on recognition ceremony for years of service, held January 22, 2001 – very nice.

Michael Woods commented on committee reports.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

1/01/17 Moved by Lenossi supported by Lambert to convene into Executive Session. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Board convened in Executive Session at 8:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

1/01/18 Moved by Lenossi supported by Webb that the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Eva W. Webb, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

STUDY SESSION, JANUARY 30, 2001

The Study Session of the Romulus Board of Education held on Tuesday, January 30, 2001, was called to order by President Michael D. Woods at 6:00 p.m.

Roll call showed members Billy McCraight, Betty Lenossi, Debbie Dick, Alan Lambert, Kenneth Berlinn, and Michael Woods present. Member Eva Webb excused. All administrators were present.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Woods.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

1/01/19 Moved by Lambert supported by Dick to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

WIDE AREA NETWORK PRESENTATION:

A presentation was given to the Board of Education with regard to Wide Area Network technology by the district's Director of Technology, Linda Cook, and Paul Twigg of Barton Malow. Also in attendance was Ron Teekwood from Utica Schools, where Wide Area Network has been installed. Questions raised by Board members and administrators were addressed.

QUESTIONS AND/OR CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS:

There were no further questions and/or concerns of Board members.

Member Alan Lambert exited at 7:20 p.m. – excused.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Convened into Executive Session at 7:30 p.m.

1/01/20 Moved by Berlinn supported by Lenossi to convene into Regular Session at 8:08 p.m. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

1/01/21 Moved by Berlinn supported by Lenossi that the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth Berlinn, Acting Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Romulus, and Melissa Morton, Manager of the Romulus Tower, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column.

(For more information about events at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins in the downtown area, call 734-942-6852.)

Free Tax Preparation

Now through mid April, volunteers from the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) will be available (by appointment only) at the Romulus Senior Center each Wednesday from 12:30 to 3 p.m. to assist low- and moderate-income Romulus seniors with the preparation of their Federal and State 1040 forms, as well as those for home-stead property taxes, home-heating credits, and prescription credits.

A list of materials which must be brought to the appointment will be provided at the time of registration.

Note: Romulus City Treasurer Pam Kersey also offers free tax-preparation services for seniors on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 5 p.m. To make an appointment, call 734-942-7580.

Indulge Yourself on "Fat Tuesday" with Paczkis!

Make the most of Fat Tuesday's excuse to splurge on February 27, when the Romulus Senior Center will be serving hot coffee/tea and fresh paczkis (pronounced "poonchkie") – two to a customer – from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Cost is just \$1.25. Advance sign-up required.

Special Trips

Seniors interested in more information about these or other special trips that have been planned by the Romulus Senior Center should call Linda Norman at 734-942-6852.

- **Kewadin Casino**
(March 8–9, \$99)
- **Casino Windsor**
(March 29; \$5)
- **Soaring Eagle Casino/Mt. Pleasant**
(April 20; \$18)
- **Sauder Farm & Village**
(May 25; \$59)
- **Washington D.C. & Gettysburg**
(June 17–23; \$699)

Crime Watch

The Romulus Police Department's Crime Prevention Officer, Damian Hull, will be at the Romulus Senior Center from 10 to 11 a.m. on Thursday, March 22, for the Center's monthly Crime Watch program.

New faces are always welcome.

Attention, Bowlers!

Bowling substitutes are needed for the Monday Morning Senior Bowling League (ages 52 and up). For more information, call 734-721-3708.

Club #1 Wants You!

The local senior group known as Club #1 meets at the Romulus Senior Center each Tuesday at 11 a.m. New faces are always welcome.

Ask the Attorney

Local attorney Steve Robinson's monthly "Ask the Attorney" program – a free consultation service for Romulus senior citizens – has been scheduled for 3 to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, February 28. As always, both walk-ins (36515 Bibbins) and call-ins (734-942-6852) are welcome.

Haircuts

The Romulus Senior Center's next haircut date is set for Monday, March 19, beginning at 9 a.m. If you would like to take advantage of this affordable (\$5) program, call the Center to make an appointment.

Note: All haircut clients are asked to wash their hair before coming to their appointment, as the Center does not have the facilities.

TeleCare Program Available

The Romulus Senior Center's TeleCare program provides seniors with daily phone reassurance at no cost. To learn more, call the Center's friendly staff.

Center Offers Transportation Service

Round-trip transportation service within the Romulus city limits is available to local seniors each Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for a fee of just \$1. To make your reservation (no later than 2 p.m. on the day before the trip), please call 734-942-6852 during the Center's normal business hours.

Outside Chore Service

Area young people doing community-service work are available to perform outside chores for local senior citizens. To make arrangements to receive this service, call the Center.

Hot Lunch

For just \$1.75, Romulus seniors (age 60 and over) can enjoy a hot lunch at the Center any weekday at 11:30 a.m. Call at least 24 hours in advance.

Volunteer Positions Open

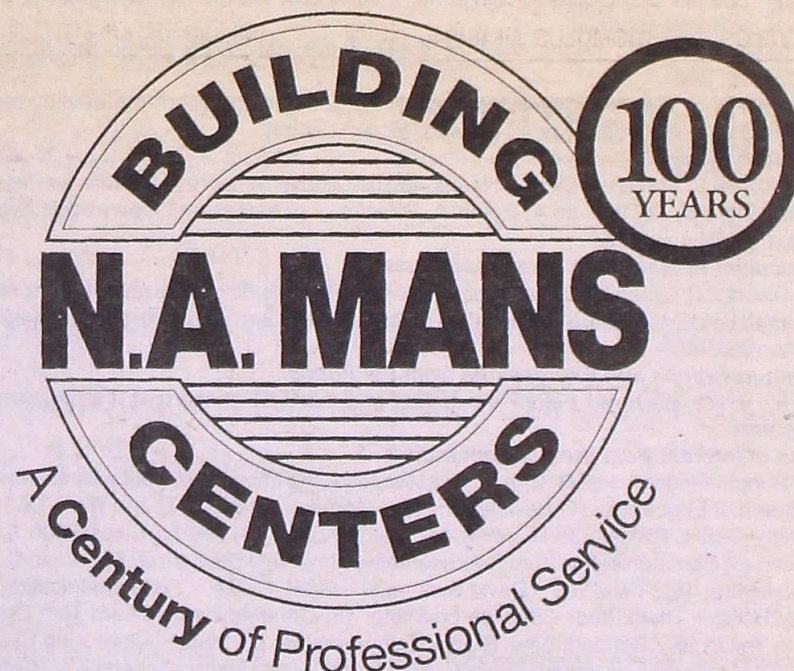
The Romulus Senior Center is always looking for friendly volunteers who would like to become more involved in the Center by helping to plan and execute its various programs. To find out more about how you can give the priceless gift of caring, please contact Linda Norman, Program Coordinator. □

Seniors Enjoy "Snow Gala" at RHS



Among those who attended the recent senior-citizen "Snow Gala" – sponsored by personal-finance students at Romulus High School – were (from left) Thalia Swint (personal-finance teacher), Helen Carroll, Louis Mitchell, Jackie Pregler, Tisha Starnes (student), Dorothy Stillwagon, and Vi Willoughby.

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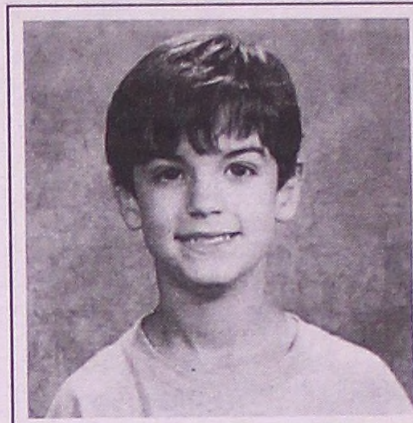
Michael Henich

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Obituaries

Mary Elwart

Mary Elwart of Romulus, Michigan, died Wednesday, February 7, 2001, at the age of 72.

A native of Wyandotte, Michigan, Mary was born on Monday, October 29, 1928.

She is survived by one son, Daniel Elwart (Dearborn Heights, MI); two daughters, Linda Atkinson (Romulus) and Cynthia (Michael) Shaft (Plymouth, MI); four brothers, Alexander (Maybee, MI), Michael (Milan, MI), Joe (TX), and Steve Paich (San Francisco, CA); six sisters, Helen Mandelka (Carleton, MI),

Zora Spewock (Dundee, MI), Marie Baldner (CA), Florence Latocki (Milan, MI), Millie Leach (CA), and Annie Knowlton (Colorado Springs, CO); 17 grandchildren; and 9 great-grandchildren.

A funeral service was held Friday, February 9, at St. Aloysius Catholic Church (Romulus), with Father Jack Baker (St. Mary's Catholic Church, Wayne, MI) officiating. Interment was at Ft. Custer National Cemetery (Augusta, MI).

Arrangements were made by Crane Funeral Home (Romulus).

Raymond Sexton

Raymond Sexton of Brownstown Township, Michigan, died Wednesday, February 7, 2001, at the age of 84.

The lifelong member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars post in Flat Rock, Michigan, was also a member of the Elks Lodge in Gaylord, Michigan.

Surviving him are one son, Thomas E. Sexton; two daughters, Mrs. Bert

(Mary) Lundine and Mrs. Fred (Madeleine) Sells; nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

A funeral service was held Monday, February 12, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with Pastor Bob McDonald (Fair Haven Baptist Church, Fair Haven, MI) officiating. Interment was at Mallett Cemetery (Huron Township, MI).

Elsie E. White

Elsie E. White of Clearwater Beach, Florida, died Wednesday, January 24, 2001, at the age of 85.

Born to Sidney and Cecil Cottrell in Terre Haute, Indiana, on September 5, 1915, Elsie graduated from high school in Romulus, Michigan, and married Clinton White in Romulus on September 5, 1936. The housewife and mother also drove a school bus for many years. She was an active church member, often teaching Bible studies.

Elsie is survived by her husband; two daughters, Judith (Ruby) Strauss (Clearwater Beach) and Pamela (Thomas) Maynard (Merritt Island, FL); one

son, George (Carolyn) White (Howell, MI); three brothers, Sidney, David, and Daniel Cottrell; two sisters, Lorraine Mehebrant and Jean Quesada; 13 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and her husband's cousins, Stanley Griggs and Helene Van Conant.

She was predeceased by one son, Timothy White; a sister, Dorothy McGhen; and a cousin, Delbert Cottrell.

A funeral service was held Saturday, February 3, at Peck United Methodist Church (Peck, MI). Burial was at Elk Township Cemetery (Elk Township, MI).

Arrangements were made by Carman Funeral Home (Peck). □

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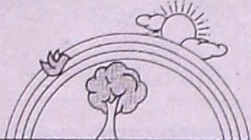
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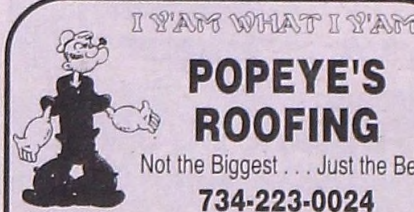
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